

Jesus 101

“Grace Thoughts”



IF THE SON SETS YOU FREE,
YOU ARE FREE INDEED!
JOHN 8:36

A short devotional to help get you excited about Jesus!

He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, “You deaf and mute spirit, I command you, come out of him and do not enter him again.” –Mark 9:25

A very gifted violinist was scheduled to give a concert in the city hall. It was advertised that he would be playing a very expensive violin. People came from all over to hear the marvelous music! During the concert, the violinist suddenly stopped and, to everyone’s astonishment, smashed the violin on the floor. He then admitted that the violin he had just broken had actually been purchased in a secondhand store for less than a dollar. As he proceeded to play on the expensive violin, only a few people could tell the difference. The violinist had made his point: it was all about the musician and his capability, not about the instrument.

In life and Christian ministry, we must all learn that we are neither the Musician nor the music; we are only humble instruments in the Master’s hands. The disciples learned this the hard way when they were not able to drive out a demon. Then Jesus rebuked the evil spirit, and it came out immediately (Mark 9:18-26). They were so confused! Had Jesus not given them power to exorcise demons? Had they not driven out demons before and healed many people? (Mark 6:7, 13). What was going on? In the conclusion, this story explains their inability. When Jesus entered the house, they asked Him, “Why could we not drive it out?” Jesus answered: “This kind cannot come out by anything but prayer” (Mark 9:28, 29). Matthew adds that Jesus pointed out that they were lacking faith, even as small as a mustard seed (see Matthew 17:20). They had lost their connection with the divine Source of power. Perhaps they had started to rely on their own authority over demons or on their talents and experience. They took their ministerial abilities for granted instead of relying on the limitless power of God. All things are possible for the one who believes (Mark 9:23), but that belief is not about our capabilities but about complete reliance on God’s power. We are not the Musician nor the music; we are only instruments. Jesus is the Master and has unlimited power to save, to heal, and to restore. He is everything! It’s all about Jesus and His ministry!